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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Ryals *et al.*

Serial Number: TBA

Filed: on even date herewith

For: Method For Protecting Plants

Art Unit: TBA

Examiner: TBA

Atty Docket: PB/5-21215C

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-referenced application, applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims ~~2-7, 9, 11-41, 43-57, 60-61, and 63-67~~ without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please re-write claims 1, 8, 10, 42, 58-59, and 62 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for protecting a plant from pathogen attack, comprising the steps of:
  - (a) providing a plant transformed with a chimeric gene comprising a promoter active in plants operatively linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein involved in the signal transduction cascade leading to systemic acquired resistance in plants, wherein the complement of said nucleotide sequence hybridizes under the following conditions to the coding sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:6:  
hybridization in 1% BSA; 520mM NaPO<sub>4</sub>, pH7.2; 7% lauryl sulfate, sodium salt;